

Peter Brown

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Caryn Brooks
Arts and Culture Editor
Willamette Week
822 SW 10th Ave
Portland, OR/97205

Dear Caryn Brooks:

Thank you for responding to my e-mail query concerning the assistant arts editor position.

As I e-mailed you, I was associate editor and music editor of the *Welcomat* (now known as *Philadelphia Weekly*). I worked for the *Welcomat* in several capacities, first as pop music columnist for 11 years. In addition to this, I was copy editor for five years, and production manager for 18 months.

As music editor, I brought several writers to the paper and dramatically increased music coverage. As associate editor, I was in charge of all columnists, the entire arts and entertainment section and letters to the editor in addition to several other duties.

The *Welcomat* was a unique paper in that it was not a typical or generic alternative weekly. Among other things, it served as a forum where articles and ideas generated by articles would be discussed, sometimes for months both in the letters section and in articles written in response to other articles.

In terms of arts coverage we tried to focus on the unusual and shows that weren't necessarily getting coverage in other papers and media. At the same time, major (popular) concerts and events were covered as well, whether the Philadelphia Orchestra or REM.

We featured (in addition to my column on pop music) regular columns on classical music, dance, art, film and book reviews.

While my personal area of expertise is popular music, I was brought up to appreciate classical music and indeed all the arts.

Since leaving the *Welcomat* due to a complete change in editorial direction, I have been looking for a situation that will be both exciting, creative and intellectually stimulating. I loved the work — both writing and editing — as well as the thrill of discovering and encouraging new writers.

It is my belief that arts journalism should be factually and historically accurate which is something I find lacking these days in both alternative and regular press.

Enclosed is my resume, a list of musicians I've interviewed (for print and educational radio) and several clips of my writing.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Peter Brown